

ent généralement la pelote; elle est ronde et composée de deux morceaux de carton recouverts de soie verte et reliés par un ruban sur lequel on pique les épingles; en excursion on la suspend à la boutonnière" (Granger, 1890). The various editions of this book had a considerable effect on practices in French amateur entomology, and the *pelote* appears in various French catalogues issued by naturalists' suppliers at the end of the century. As late as the 1920's the *pelote* was used by elder entomologists in France, as testified by the author's father, who although not an entomologist collected plants in several provinces. By then the *pelote* was an anachronism, and it was surely on the Continent (although its history in Germanic countries has not been traced here) that the pincushion ended its tradition of at least two hundred and thirty years as a desirable item of entomological collecting equipment.

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HYDROPHILUS PICEUS L. (COL.: HYDROPHILIDAE) IN MONMOUTH. — Whilst collecting beetles at Magor Marsh on 8th March, 1975 a male specimen of *Hydrophilus piceus* was netted in one of the ditches surrounding the marsh. Because of the scarcity of this insect in Wales I feel the fact should be recorded. According to Frank Balfour-Browne's book *Water Beetles and Other Things* there exists an old record of the insect being taken at Crwmllyn Bog area in Glamorgan in 1829 and, more recently, a specimen from a brackish ditch near Rumney, Monmouth, in 1949. — M. J. LEECH, Yew Tree Cottage, Bromsash, Ross-on-Wye, Herefordshire, HR9 7PN, 10.iii.1975.